

2/1228

172.

258 Market

exp. 1/2

Paid March 21st 1826

W. K. Lathrop

Sept. 27. 1880

at 10

810.

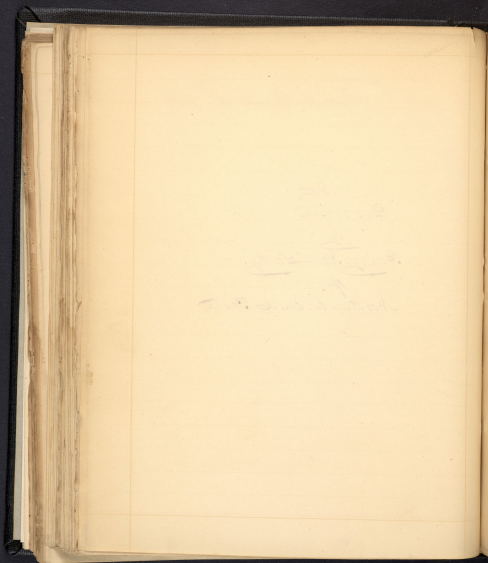
Dispersed

by

Henry Kent La Hay.

of

Northumber Lane de Strand

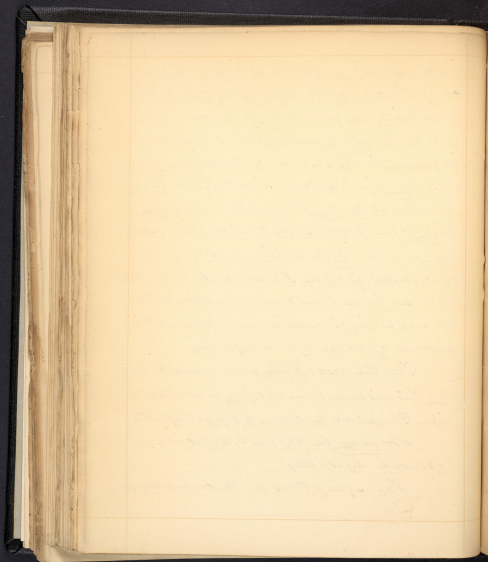


Considering dyspepsia as by far the most complicated, of all the disorders of the digestive function, the frequency of its occurrence, and unobscuring nature, I have been induced to make it the subject of the following remarks, my limited experience will not justify the thought of my being able to add any thing to our present stock of information respecting it, but by availing myself of the experience of others, I trust I shall be enabled to draw from these & such matters, and to arrange it, in such a manner, as will at least be of advantage to myself.

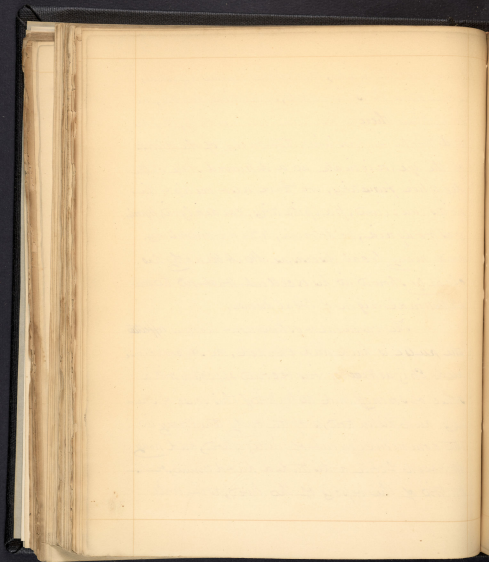
For the description, and mode of treating this disease, I am chiefly indebted to Wilson Philip, and the lectures of Professor Chapman.

It may be defined, difficult, or depraved digestion,

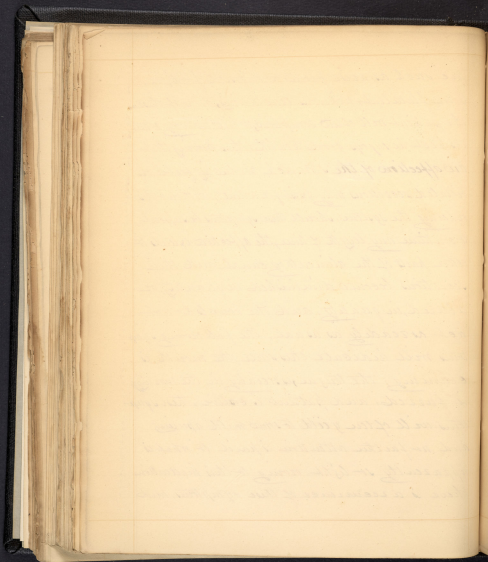
The symptoms in the commencement



are such as acid food undigested food, viz,
some flatulent, noxious, &c. &c. &c. and of these
the patient will often complain, while in any state
as yet he enjoys good health, thus proving that
the affections of the stomach producing febrile or
irritated secretions may exist for a time, without dis-
ordering the system, should these symptoms be suffered
to continue any length of time, the affection extends to
other parts of the alimentary canal, and their
secretions become diminished in quantity, or
altered in quality, and the bowels do not
act as readily as usual, the following symp-
toms will indicate this state, the mouth is
clammy, the tongue, especially in the morning
is furzed, and patient is restless, these symp-
toms will of ten yield to some mild aperient
and no further attention is paid to what is
apparently so light, owing to this inattention
there is a recurrence of these symptoms, and

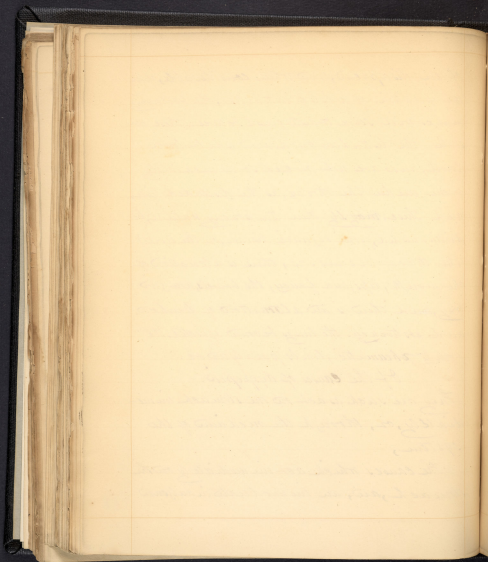


debility, at first only occasional, is explained
of. in this the mind participates. the patient
becomes incapable of his usual mental efforts,
his sleep is irregular and disturbed, though
occasionally he enjoys good nights, at all times
he feels a degree of drowsiness, and he now be-
comes alarmed very irritably and dejectedly. The
alvine discharges begin to deviate from their
healthy appearance, rising probably to diminished
or vitiated secretion of bile, being much lighter
or darker. this change of colour is ascribed
by many to circumstances of diet, and changes
which the contact of the bowels undergo as
their passages through the canal. The urines
enables the mind to detect. The symptoms
the consequences of sympathy existing between
the stomach and other parts, now begin to
show themselves, as pain in the breast, pain
in the side, sometimes mistaken for pleurisy.



pain in the head, the vision becomes affected, sometimes it is inverted, sometimes double, and sometimes there is permanent blindness, this has led to the supposition, that many of the diseases of the eye, originate in a depraved state of the digestive function, we have also vertigo, tinnitus aurium, palpitatio, cardiacalgia, pyrosis, gastrodynia, the dolorem, tetanic convulsions, and many local diseases, as Mo A. ben. has clearly showed in his excellent tract on the constitutional origin of local diseases.

The vascular system now becomes affected the pulse is hard and chorded, the epigastrium and epigastriac region become affected with a sense of strength, and distention of this sense of strength and distention, is of the only temporary in the commencement of indigestion, and may proceed from a distended duodenum, distention of the vessels of the liver, as it will

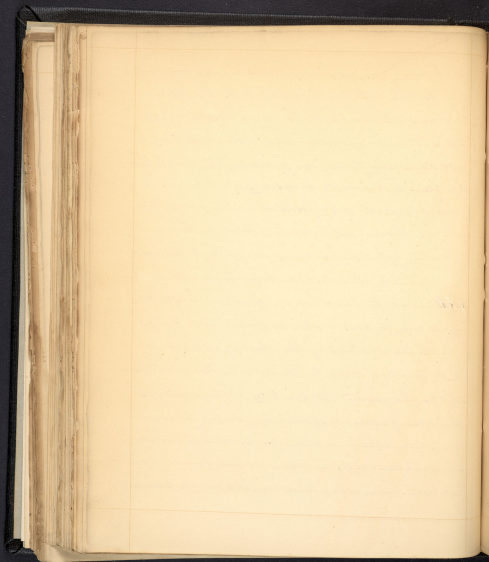


of low disappend, even when considerable, after
the operation of a brisk cathartic, the following
marks will serve to distinguish between these two
states. the distended duodenum is felt lower
down, and does not proceed so immediately
from under the throat, as the distended liver,
and these, may by their temporary nature, be
distinguished, from organic disease, of the liver.)
the throat becomes sore, there is a relaxation of
the mouth, lips, and fauces, the bowels, now sway,
may, and there is an alteration of diuresis
and costiveness. the lungs become affected. the
joint, phrenetic, limbs paralytic &c.

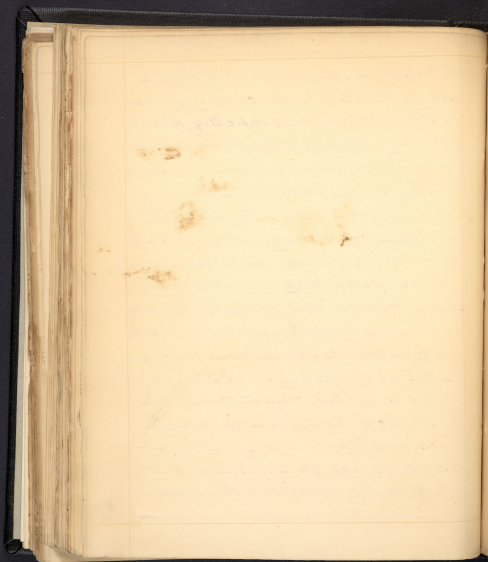
Of the causes of dyspepsia.

They are such as act on the stomach imme-
diately, or, through the medium of the
system,

The causes which act immediately on the
stomach, are, an immoderate indulgence



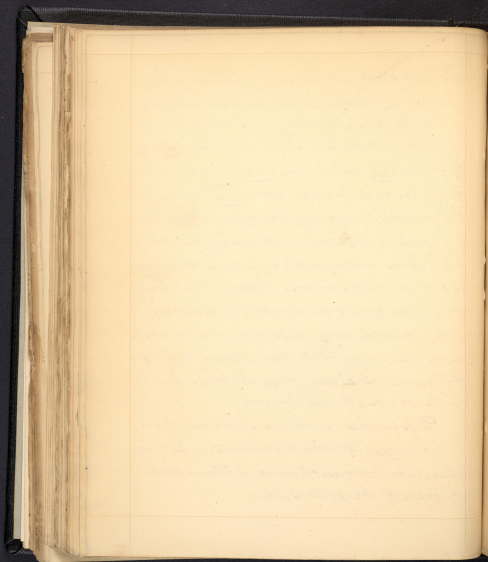
in tea, coffee, mineral water, acetic, vinegar as
used by females to prevent copulency, tobacco,
in short, whatever induces imbecility of the
stomach, by overdistention, or, otherwise, one of
the most common causes of overdistention, is eating
too fast, thereby preventing the food from
combining with the gastric juice, as it is
well known, that it is only in proportion, as the
food combines with, and neutralises this fluid,
that the appetite abates. whereas if we eat
slowly the proper time is given for the above
combination to take place, and the appetite
abates before the stomach becomes overcharged,
the gastric fluid, being secreted fully in pro-
portion as the fluid comes in contact with
the stomach, daily dishes, are among the
causes, and are injurious by tempting us to
eat after the appetite is satisfied, and
drink during dinner, food that swells after



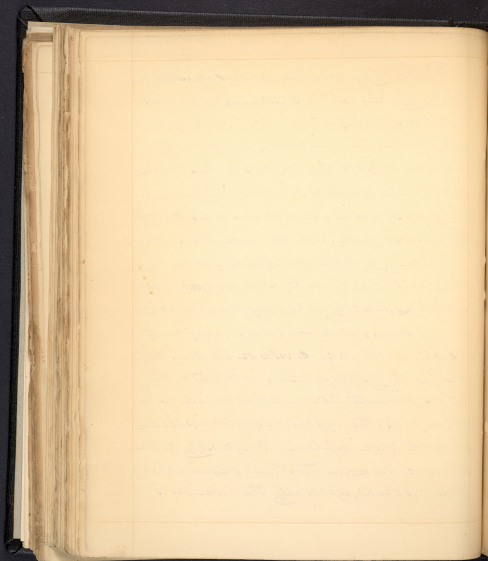
its receipt into the stomach, are among
the many causes, that might be, enumerated.

If the causes, affecting the stomach through
the medium of the system, are, and indolent
or sedentary life, intense study, excess of por-
tion, exposure to cold, becoming a prey to
the passions, especially, those of a depressing
kind, as grief, &c., deep anxiety, immoderate
libidinous indulgence, late hours, an ex-
cess of spirituous liquors, these are the most
common causes of idiopathic dyspepsia,
symptomatic, may arise, from decayed state,
as, in the remarkable case related by Prof. Pro-
Chapman of a lady from Antich, affection
of the brain, of the liver, &c.

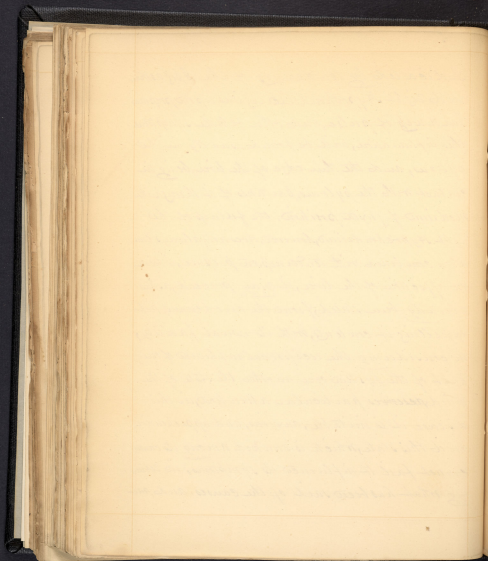
Dyspepsia. Now the stomach relaxed,
and flatulency, alteration of structure, in its mucous
tissue, and follicles, chronic inflammation,
schirrus of the pylorus, &c.



Pathology. All the causes enumerated
will indirectly affect the muscular, or, nervous por-
tion, of the stomach, or bowels, inducing debi-
lity, hence the muscular power is insuf-
ficient to expel the contents of the stomach,
and to the want of nervous influence,
may be traced the diminished secretion
of gastric juice, and we have the symp-
toms arising from undigested food, or
the irritation of undigested food, and vitiated
secretions, directly affecting the stomach,
and bowels, excite ~~the~~ nervous derangements
which affect these cavities or the parts with
which they sympathize, irritation of the
nerves produce the same effect here as in
other parts, the vessels become implicated
and we have inflammation, mostly of the
chronic kind, in the stomach, and collati-
ous viscera, especially the liver, as is



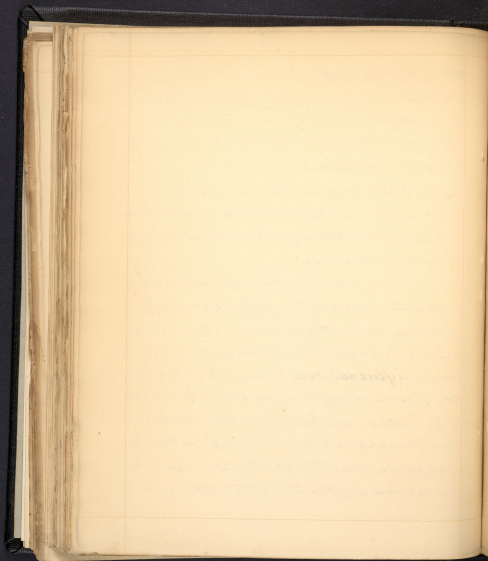
indica led by tenderness of the Epigastrium
and right Hypochondrium, arising upon proper
hardness of pulse, and other febrile symptoms,
this inflammation, will be found usually, in the
pylorus, and the thin edge of the liver, being in
contact with the pylorus, partakes of it through the
medium of sympathetic position. the fulness of the
right Hypochondrium, however, does not always con-
note combined with tenderness, or pressure, indicate
an affection of the liver, it may proceed, as has
already been stated, from the duodenum not
expelling its contents, with its usual facility,
in considering the reciprocal influence of one
part of the system over another, the state of the
mind, deserves particular attention, in this
disease it is irritable, anxious, and apprehensive,
and this state, which is ranked among its causes,
cannot fail to influence its symptoms, in confirm-
ing what has been said of the causes, and, par-



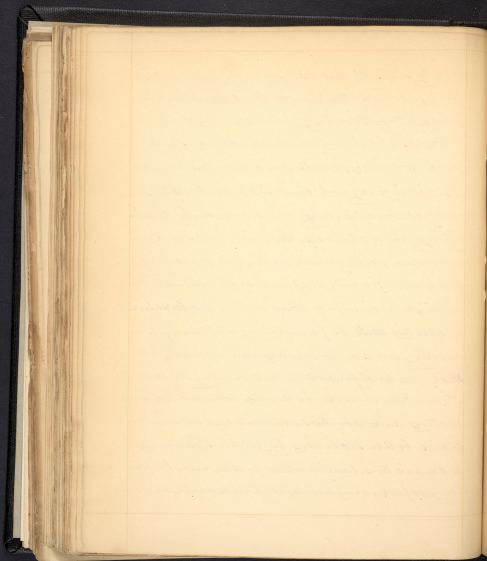
clearly recollecting that parts sympathetically af-
fected, until no real disease is established nothing
act, as secondary causes of the primary affection
we must be fully convinced of the complicated
nature of this disease,

Our success in the treatment of this
disease, will depend much on the age, constitution,
habits, of the patient, together with his indulging
to indigestion or privation,

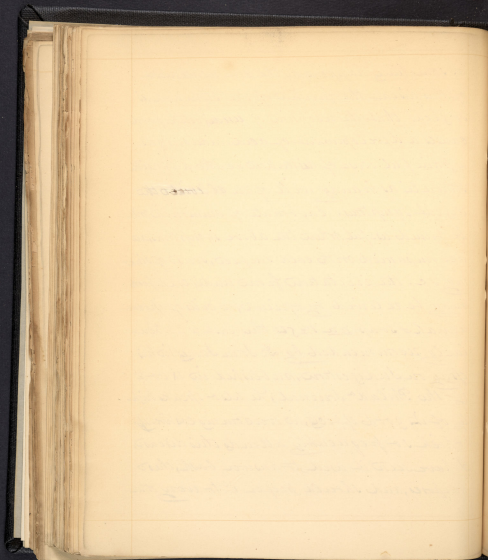
Our first object should be to ascertain
whether the stomach is primarily, or secondarily
affected, but whether it be, or no, our remedies
must be directed to it, no account of its in-
fluence influenced, over other parts of the system,
our first remedy, therefore, should be, and more
is of ipecacuanah with a view to cleanse
the stomach, and pave the way for those
successful operations of other remedies, and
it sometimes happens that too much is done to the



early stage of this disease will put a stop to it, should this not be the case, it will be proper to follow it, by an aperient, of a mild kind, as rheubarb, which on account of its tonic properties, is well suited to this purpose. its astringency, which might perhaps render it objectionable, may be removed, by combining it with soap, the milk of sulphur, and magnesia, will answer well, and in fusion of gentian, & senno, prepared by the shells, or magnesia, on account of their antacid & laxative properties will be found very useful. If after having resorted to emetics and aperients we still find the offensive mucus existing in the stomach, it will be proper to resort to correcting and at the same time endeavor to excite better secretion by gentle stimulant, as essence of lime water, & milk, will be found very useful, magnesia, prepared chalk, &c. if



as something happens in the commencement
of this disease the morbid of the stomach is
so great that the reception of undigested food
causes a development of acids, nidorous gas,
a painful sense of distention &c. the diffusive
stimuli as brandy, will of an alleviate the
urgent symptoms, carbonate of ammonia will
be found useful when the above symptoms are
accompanied with cold surface, sense of sick-
ing &c. the irritation from undigested food
may be relieved by opium, or pills of speer-
uanah & soap as 1/2 grs this last is particu-
larly recommended by Dr John Sanger in his
essay on Indigestion, published in 1804
of the Philad^a Journal, he also speaks high-
ly of its good effects, in overcoming costiveness,
which so frequently attends this disease
I have used it with to answer both these
purposes, and should prefer it to every other



remedy, the pills are to be taken at night
on going to bed, or, after a hearty meal,

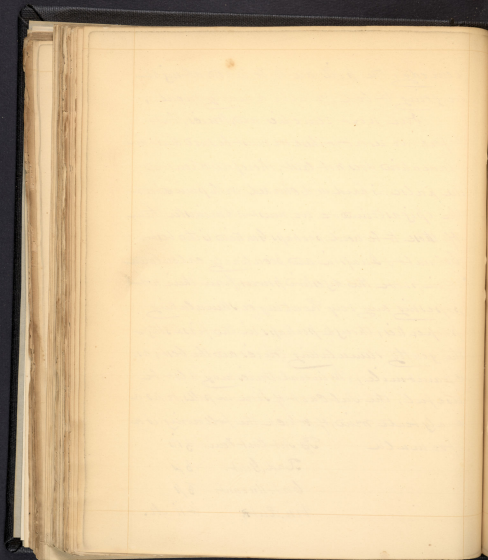
Our next remedies are tonics, but
before we resort to these we must be sure that in-
flammation does not exist, therefore whenever
the pulse, is hard and chorded, with pain about
the epigastrium &c we must administer them
Of those to be used perhaps Gentian is the best,
Colombos Quapin are peculiarly calculated
to improve the digestive powers, from their not
possessing any very heating or stimulating
properties, though perhaps in the first stage
the gently stimulating tonics are the best, as,
Chamomile, Mineral tonics may also be
useful, the Sub Carb of Iron in pills, or as a
chalybeate mine, of which the following is a
formula

℞ Sub Carb Ferri. ʒiʒ

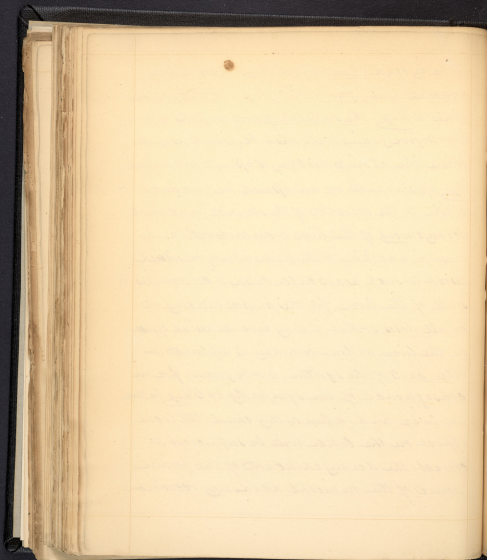
Rad. Genti. ʒss

Coat. Muzant. ʒss

Vin. Rubi. ℥ii. M.

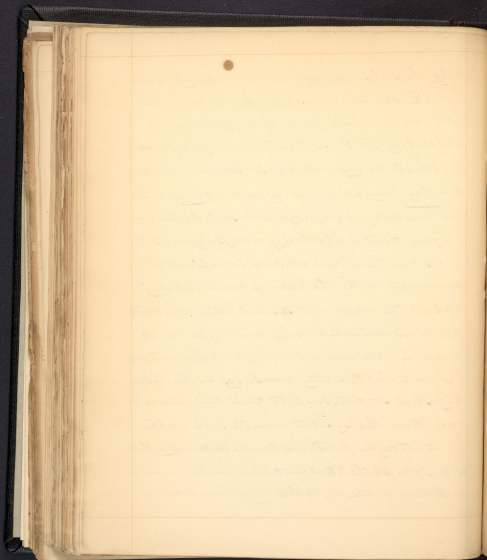


to be digested three or four days exposed to a moderate heat, dose a wine glass full three or four times a day, the sulphate of iron in pills of from two to five grains will also be found useful. When the alvine discharges resumed and unhealed they appeared, we are assured we have in addition to the affection of the stomach functional derangement of the liver contents with and must in addition to the means already considered resort to such a one calculated to correct this state of the liver, for this purpose mercury, in small doses, so that it may have the desired effect on the liver, without extending its influence to other parts of the system, is to be given, for in consequence of the sympathy existing between the liver and alimentary canal the local effect on the latter will be sufficient to correct the deranged action of the former, some of the mineral acids may occasion

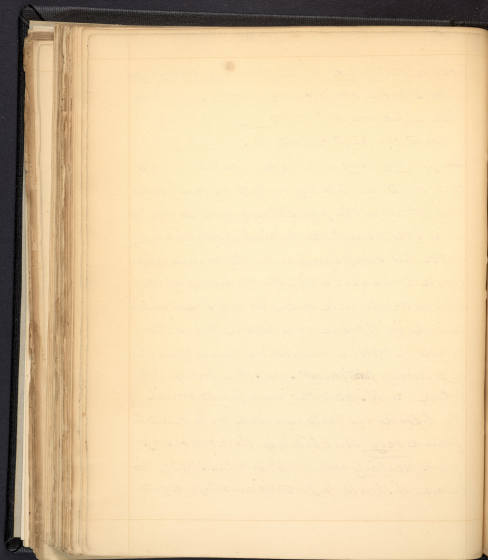


ally be substituted for the mercury as the
nitric or nitro-muriatic. The latter may
be given internally, or applied externally
according to Dr. Ferri. The impressions made
by these acids are not so permanent, nor
do they act so promptly, as mercury, when
the mercury is employed it should be no
longer than is absolutely necessary, as its ef-
fects on the stomach and bowels are at-
tained with the rest of our treatment.

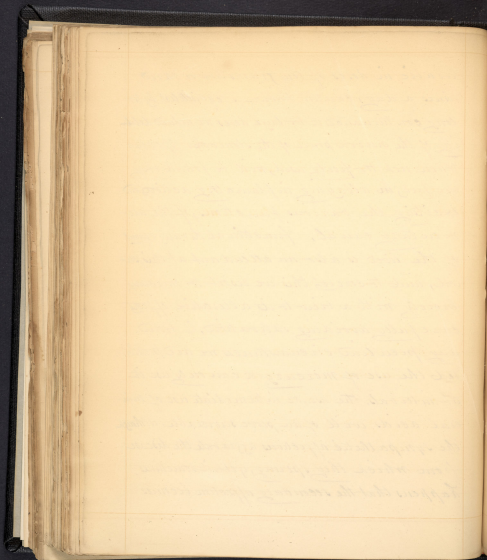
When the vascular system becomes involved
the plan detailed will no longer be ap-
plicable. nor will it do to resort to the mercuri-
al or anti-inflammatory measures, as the disease
may still so far, persisted, of its original nat-
ure that the system would sink under
it, although from the commencement this
is a sympathetic affection of other functions,
with those of the digestive they now find their



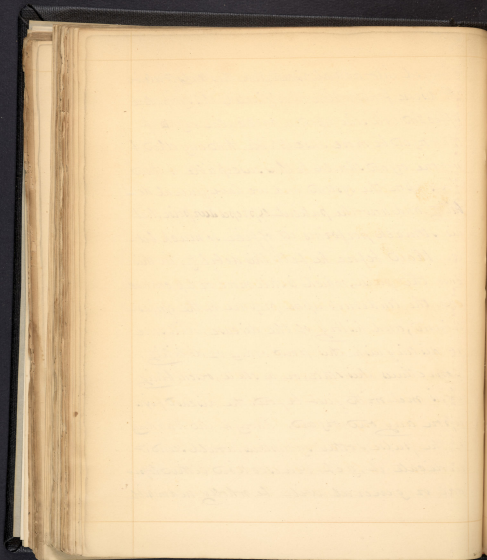
longer continued if the primary derangement
and its more complicated nature suffered more
these affections will of too very materially in-
fluenced our plan of cure, the strength of the
the patient being impaired and the remedies
of a more debilitating nature, we must endeavor
to restore the functions, as soon as possible
and thus prevent the patient from sinking
under his complaint, and the means emp-
loyed to relieve it, the tenderness of the
epigastrium will of too be very speedily re-
lieved by topical venesection, now is the
effects of topical venesection merely that of
of relieving particular symptoms but of the
whole, as related to the part from which
the blood has been derived will of too be
found to very beneficial, the mode of practice
appears peculiarly well adapted to this stage of the
disease, it should be given in quantities of good



arabic in doses of ten grains two or three
times a day; caution however is requisite lest by too
long continued or too large doses we induce debility
of the nervous power of the stomach. Opium
when not too freely used, will be found very
useful, in allaying inflammatory actions and
exciting the various functions of the ali-
mentary canal, functional derangement
of the liver is also an attendant at this pe-
riod, and to correct this we resort to mercury
merely with a view to its alterative effects
carefully avoiding salivation, if from
any peculiar circumstances we are prohibi-
ted the use of mercury, we can only use it
at intervals, the use, or intermediate use, of mi-
neral acids will often prove serviceable, although
the sympathetic affections aggravate the disease
from which they spring, yet, it sometimes
happens that the secondary affection becomes



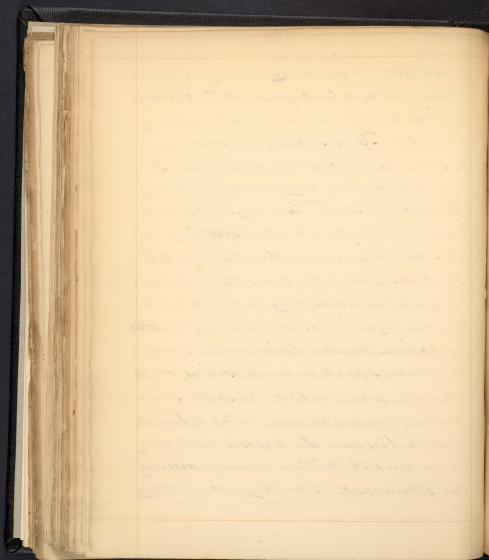
changed into actual blood, and thus tends to relieve
the disease from which it originates, this sympathetic
affection will arise upon a particular organ if
that organ be more susceptible than any other, if
no one organ should be thus susceptible it then
fixes upon the system, and we have general debili-
tating, and now the patient expresses surprise that
his stomach performs its office so much bet-
ter than before he felt this debility, in this
case the pulse, which is still more or less continu-
ed, the tenderness upon pressure of the epigas-
trium, and history of the disease, will serve
to distinguish this from other of debility,
sometimes this state, or a state, resembling
it, is met with just before the disease fixes
upon any one organ, though the hardness
of the pulse & other symptoms, would seem to
indicate it, yet remission either tempo-
ral or general will be wholly inadmissible



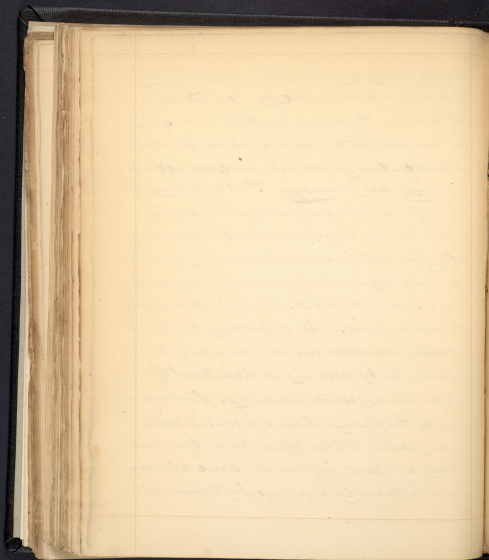
our chief reliance must be on a mild diet
with the occasional use of saline medicine
the diet should be, where the stomach will
bear it, of vegetable and milk, this will some-
times produce an astonishing change, restoring
the pulsatility in the skin, and bowels, it
seldom happens that animal food can be
entirely relinquished.

Although we can scarcely hope to relieve
the patient, of the distressing symptoms, as,
cardialgia, pyrosis, gastrodynia, cephalalgia,
palpitation, &c until we restore the stomach
to its healthy functions, yet it will of use
be in our power, to afford temporary relief
thus, when we have cardiacgia, associated
with other symptoms, that will admit of
an emetic, we should immediately give
one, as it is the most effectual remedy,
should it however not be admissible, we

must resort to ~~cozce~~ cozce ~~lives~~, as magnesia lime
water & milk, or lime water alone, charcoal
medicament, prepared after the following
formulae. Dr. of Hickory asks one quart,
of root one tea cup full, and to these add
one gallon of boiling water, after letting
the mixture stand three days, decant, a
wine glass full to be taken after every meal.
It sometimes happens that the antacids
fail, and in such cases the minerals,
or vegetable acids, may be resorted to with
advantage. Instead of this may be relieved
by opium, musk, tepid water, something
hot water, sipped in small portions, to pre-
vent the recurrence of the spasm. Sassa-
para, warmersordine, or oil of bismuth
and a blister. The pyrosis after resorting
to an emetic with a view of relieving
the stomach of its watery accumulation.



and changing the secretion, we may
next resort to antacids, opium, oxide
of bismuth, oil of amber, and spirit
of turpentine, this last will be found
particularly useful, in cases accom-
panying pregnancy. Palpitations,
may be relieved by any of the essential
oils, When cephalalgia occurs periodi-
cally it will be most effectually relieved
by emetics, we may also try magnesia
benzoated, blisters, liniment, extract
of ammonia. the affections of the
scalp, the dolores &c, can only be
relieved by restoring to their healthy
state the disordered functions. It some-
times happens that dyspepsia will
not yield to the plan detailed even
though there be no organic alteration
but is merely kept up, by habit, and



then we must resort to alternative
course of mercury, to galvanism
sea voyage &c.

Having thus briefly sketched what
I conceive to be the principles which ought
to guide us in the medical treatment
of this disease, I shall only remark
that unless it be accompanied by
a well regulated diet all our efforts
will be unavailing, but if this be attend-
ed to, and added to this a proper at-
tention to clothing, keeping up an agreeable
mental excitement, bodily exercise,
change of air, &c. we shall of too
have the pleasure of relieving our
patients from one of the most obstin-
ate, and distressing of diseases.

